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OADR NO78

~~TOP SECRET - SECURITY INFORMATION~~~~EXCISE~~

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED by J. Carl DATE 11/1/90 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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() CLASSIFY as OADR

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SUBJECT: Albania

DATE: March 18, 1953

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Ruffin, First Secretary of the French Embassy
EE - Mr. Marcy

COPIES TO:

EUR (2)

WE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY J. DeWitt DATE 2/11/87

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Mr. Ruffin called at his own request in connection with Yugoslav military affairs. In the course of his conversation he informed me that the French Government had queried their Minister in Tirana regarding recent reports of unrest and disturbances in Albania. Their Minister replied with a lengthy cable explaining why he was unable in fact to observe what was going on in Albania, but added that from what he was able to observe, nothing unusual has taken place. He reported that there had been some apparent "emotion" at the death of Stalin, particularly amongst the communist officials of the government, and that guards around his legation as well as security in general around Tirana seemed to be somewhat heavier than usual. He had received one direct report from Scutari which was negative: there had been no disturbances in that city.

In general discussion concerning Albania, and indicating his recognition of how sensitive the entire problem is, Mr. Ruffin noted on an informal basis that his government had recently evinced no interest in the early initiation of tripartite discussions on that subject. He commented that last fall, when the US, UK and France had agreed to discuss Albania, the Foreign Office had been most anxious to begin the discussions as soon as possible. Lately, however, he had heard nothing further from the Foreign Office, and was thus in fact "without instructions" should we wish to begin them in the near future. I made no substantive reply to these remarks beyond indicating that I hoped that we would shortly have something to say to the British and French concerning the tripartite discussions.

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